Message Text

AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY OTTAWA AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, NL

SUBJECT: SIMON STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ISSUES

1. EMBASSY HAS DISTRIBUTED SIMON STATEMENT OF JULY 21 BEFORE JEC SUB-COMMITTEE VIA USIS CHANNELS TO NETHERLANDS MEDIA EDITORS. WE HAVE ALSO PRESENTED COPIES TO MINFIN WITH REQUEST FOR REACTIONS OR VIEWS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS MENTIONED THEREIN.

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- 2. VAN BOVEN OF OFFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AFFAIRS, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, DESCRIBED STATEMENT AS "ONE OF MOST BRILLIANT I HAVE EVER READ" ON THE SUBJECT AND THEN INDICATED TO EMBOFF THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES AT THE WORKING LEVEL IN THE FINANCE MINISTRY ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THRUST OF POSITION DESCRIBED BY SIMON. SPECIFICALLY, THEY ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE CALL FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENTS. HOWEVER, VAN BOVEN WAS OF THE OPINION THAT FINANCE MINISTER DUISENBERG WOULD TAKE A MORE AMBIVALENT POSITION AND WOULD LIKELY BE CONCERNED WITH PROVIDING FOR SOME STRUCTURE THAT ALLOWS PARITIES. MINFIN STAFF IS NOW PREPARING REPORT ON SIMON STATEMENT FOR DUISENBERG AND TREASURER-GENERAL OORT, BOTH OF WHOM PRESENTLY ON VACATION (DUISENBERG IS SCHEDULED RETURN WEEK OF JULY 28 AND OORT FOLLOWING WEEK.) OUR CONTACTS AT MINISTRY PROMISED MORE OFFICIAL RESPONSE AFTER FINANCE MINISTER HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW SIMON STATEMENT AND STAFF REPORT.
- 3. IN CONNECTION WITH REVIEW OF POINTS COVERED IN STATEMENT, MINFIN INQUIRED WHETHER COPIES OF VARIOUS CHARTS AND TABLES REFERRED TO IN SIMON STATEMENT COULD BE PROVIDED. WE ASSUME THESE CHARTS AND TABLES WILL EVENTUALLY BE DISTRIBUTED TO EMBASSY IN FORM OF TREASURY PRESS RELEASE. HOWEVER WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE COPIES BY INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL ADDRESSED TO ATTENTION OF FINANCIAL REPORTING OFFICER FOR DELIVERY TO MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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